

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 were originally filed in the present application.

Claims 1, 9 and 17 were rejected in the September 25, 2007 Office Action.

Claims 2-8, 10-16 and 18-20 were objected to in the September 25, 2007 Office Action.

No claims have been allowed.

Claims 1, 3, 9, 11, 17 and 19 are amended herein.

Claims 2, 10 and 18 are cancelled herein.

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-17 and 19-20 remain in the present application.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

In the September 25, 2007 Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 9 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 7,092,712 to *Holmes, et al.* (hereafter, simply “Holmes”). In addition, the Examiner objected to Claims 2-8, 10-16 and 18-20 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but stated that Claims 2-8, 10-16 and 18-20 would be allowable if they were rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims.

Therefore, independent Claims 1, 9 and 17 have been amended to include the limitations of dependent Claims 2, 10 and 18, respectively, in order to place all the claims in condition for allowance as suggested by the Examiner. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of Claims 1, 9 and 17 and the objections to Claims 2-8, 10-16 and 18-20.

SUMMARY

For the reasons given above, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims and that this application be passed to issue. If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at wmunck@munckbutrus.com.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

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